



Borough of Kendal.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR

1921.

KENDAL:

PRINTED BY TITUS WILSON AND SON, HIGHGATE.

1922.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Kendal.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report for the year 1921, prepared in accordance with your instructions and those of the Ministry of Health.

Last year I expressed the hope that the Census of 1921 would facilitate the correct compilation of Statistics and Rates, but the circumstances under which this had to be taken leaves considerable doubt as to whether the figures arrived at represent the normal local population.

I wish to express my indebtedness to your Officials for their continued courtesies, but especially to the Sanitary Inspector for his excellent services and for his assistance in much of the statistical portion of this report.

The Members of the Medical Profession have afforded me much help in my general duties, and my heartiest thanks are offered to them.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. BARON COCKILL,

Medical Officer of Health.

27th March, 1922.

BOROUGH OF KENDAL.

*Annual Report of the Medical-Officer-of-Health for the
Year ending December 31st, 1921.*

I. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	..	..	..	..	..	2,700
Population (census 1921)	..	..	..	..	..	14,149
Number of inhabited houses (census 1921)	..					
Number of families or separate occupiers (census 1921)	..	..	..	..	..
						Not available
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	£75,408 10s.
Sum represented by a penny rate:—						
(a) Poor Rate	..	..	..	..	..	£288
(b) General District Rate	..	..	..	..	..	£269

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.		
Births (legitimate)	.. 294	150	144		
(illegitimate)	.. 20	10	10	Birth Rate (R.G.)	22.1
Deaths	.. .. 202			Death Rate (R.G.)	14.2
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth:—					
From sepsis	.. 0			From other causes	.. 0.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births:—					
Legitimate	.. 71			Illegitimate	.. 300
				Total	86.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	1
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	1
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	..	0

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

There were no cases of deaths from Tuberculosis where the disease had not previously been notified.

The notification of known cases of Tuberculosis has invariably been carried out.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORIUM.

Cases.			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	At Hospital				
3	2	1	2	1	0	0

The epidemic of Diphtheria which began in the last quarter of 1920 continued during the first six months of 1921, and throughout the year there have been sporadic cases. A somewhat high incidental death rate resulted.

One case of industrial anthrax occurred in a wool scourer ; under prompt and efficient treatment recovery resulted.

4. CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

There have been no specially noteworthy causes of sickness and invalidity in the district.

5. SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITAL AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) General. This is provided by the Kendal Home Nursing Association, an institution supported entirely by voluntary subscription, and there is no scheme of co-ordination with the Local Authority.

(b) Infectious Diseases, *e.g.* Measles, etc. Under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918, a retaining fee of £10 per year is paid to the Kendal Home Nursing Association, for the services of a nurse ; should an epidemic occur entailing additional staff a fee of 1s. for each house visited will be paid.

MIDWIVES.

No subsidy is paid by the Public Health Authority to the four practising midwives.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

INSTITUTIONS.	ADDRESSES.	ACCOMMODATION.
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre	Working Men's Association, Old Post Office Yard	Waiting Room Weighing do. Consulting do.
Day Nurseries	Nil	—
School Clinic	Town Hall	Waiting Room Consulting do. Dark do.
Tuberculosis Dispensary ..	17, Lowther Street	Waiting Room Consulting do. Dressing do.
Venereal Disease	Nil	—
School Dental Clinic	Abbot Hall	Waiting Room Operating do. Recovery do.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY,
OR BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

HOSPITAL.	SITUATION.	ACCOMMODATION.
Tuberculosis	Meathop, Grange-over-Sands	150 Beds
Maternity and Children ..	Nil	—
Fever	The Sanatorium, Kendal	46 Beds
Small-pox	Woodside, nr. Kendal	50 Beds
Ethel Hedley Hospital School (Orthopædics)	Calgarth, Windermere	30 Beds
Venereal Disease	North Lonsdale Hosp'l, Barrow-in-Furness	

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN CONNECTION WITH THE MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

Number of times the Centre has been opened	..	52
„ „ babies under 1 year attending	.. 104	
„ „ children between 1-5 years attending	45	149
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„ „ consultations for children attending	967	
„ „ consultations for mothers attending	251	1218
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Average number of children attending per session	.. 18.6	
Average number of mothers attending per session	.. 4.8	23.4
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Number of Milk Certificates issued	46
Value of milk supplied	£11 9s.

The Health Visitor has also paid the following visits:—

Number of First visits to newly born babies	.. .. .	280
Number of Subsequent visits	.. .. .	2,106
Number of Antenatal visits	.. .. .	91
Number of Still-birth investigations	10
Number of Attendances at Centre	48
		<hr/>
Total		2,535
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The Westmorland County Hospital contains 50 beds available for all non-infectious medical, surgical and abnormal midwifery cases. It is supported by voluntary contributions.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ETC.

St. Monica's Maternity Home, under the control of Carlisle Diocesan Maternity Committee.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) Infectious Cases. A horse-ambulance ; the Authority also has the option of hiring a motor-ambulance.

(b) Non-infectious Cases. St. John Ambulance Brigade.

6. LABORATORY WORK.

The combined districts of Westmorland have provided laboratories at Kendal, to which any practitioner may send specimens for examination. Sputum is also examined at Meathop Sanatorium. The following has been done for the Borough of Kendal:—

BACTERIOLOGICAL.										PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL.						773																					
Diphtheria	305	Sputum	117	Urine	2	Malaria	240	Enteric Fever	5	Infections	3	Gonococcus	11	Dysentery	5	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	3	Pneumonia	1	Anthrax	3	Organisms	16	Water (B. Coll.)	25	Scarlet Fever	10	Deposits	8	Anæmia	8	Intestinal Parasites	9	Pleural Discharge	1	Ringworm	1

Diphtheria Antitoxin is issued free for the treatment of all necessitous cases excepting patients under the National Health Insurance Act, also for both necessitous and insured patients for prophylactic purposes.

7. SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

List of Adoptive Acts, Byelaws and Local Regulations.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Adoption.</i>
ADOPTIVE ACTS	
Sanitary Clauses, Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1890 and 1907	1890, 1908
Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890	1891
Private Streets Act, 1892	1893
Kendal Corporation Gas and Water Acts, 1894	1894

BYE-LAWS.

Common Lodging Houses	1899
Slaughter Houses	1899
Prevention of Nuisances	1899
Markets and Fairs	1899
Baths and Washhouses	1899
Open Spaces and Pleasure Grounds	1899
Offensive Trades	1899, 1914 1921
New Streets and Buildings	1900, 1905
Means of escape from fire	1906
Private Scavenging	1909
Cemeteries	1909
Tents and Vans	1914

REGULATIONS.

Prevention of mis-use of water	1897
Under Sec. 13, Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, (1885)	1899, 1908.

Additional byelaws have, this year, been sanctioned and adopted for the offensive trade of carcase boiler.

SUMMARY OF WORK OF THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

DRAINAGE AND PAVEMENT OF YARDS.

Defective drains reconstructed	8
Choked drains	27

Defective gullies	..	..	..	..	..	4
Defective soil and vent pipes	..	..	..	..	..	2
Defective pavement of yards	..	..	..	..	..	9
Yards requiring cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	3

DWELLINGS.

Houses requiring cleansing and limewashing	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bedrooms insufficiently lighted and ventilated	..	..	..	..	..	30
Living rooms insufficiently lighted and ventilated	..	..	..	..	..	22
Pantries insufficiently lighted and ventilated	..	..	..	..	..	7
Houses without pantry	..	..	..	..	..	1
Houses overcrowded	..	..	..	..	..	2
Houses with defective roofs	..	..	..	..	..	26
Houses with defective floors	..	..	..	..	..	26
Houses with defective and damp walls	..	..	..	..	..	34
Houses with defective chimney-stacks	..	..	..	..	..	12
Houses with defective sink, and sink waste	..	..	..	..	..	39
Houses without any sinks	..	..	..	..	..	7
Houses with defective eaves and down-spouts	..	..	..	..	..	15
Houses with insufficient water supply	..	..	..	..	..	24
Houses with defective ceilings	..	..	..	..	..	11
Living-rooms below ground level	..	..	..	..	..	4
Defective kitchen ranges	..	..	..	..	..	11
Defective wash-houses	..	..	..	..	..	2

WATER CLOSETS.

Defective water closets	..	..	..	..	..	23
Defective trough and tipper closets	..	..	..	..	..	12
Water closets with insufficient water supply	..	..	..	..	..	5
Water closets insufficiently lighted and ventilated	..	..	..	..	..	3
Water closets requiring cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	3
Defective urinals	..	..	..	..	..	3

PRIVIES AND ASHPITS.

Defective privies	..	..	..	..	..	6
Defective ashpits	..	..	..	..	..	11
Defective ashbins	..	..	..	..	..	120
Defective pail closets	..	..	..	..	..	1

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Insufficient, unsuitable or defective w.c. accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bakehouses requiring limewashing	..	..	..	..	..	4
Insufficient means of escape in case of fire	..	..	..	..	..	2
Workshops without any sanitary convenience	..	..	..	..	..	1

II

GENERAL.

Cowsheds requiring limewashing	..	..	..	..	2
Cowsheds with defective paving	..	..	..	..	1
Stable requiring limewashing	..	..	..	..	1
Accumulation of offensive refuse and manure	..	..	..	..	31
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	..	..	..	..	3
Fish shop in insanitary condition	..	..	..	..	1
Smoke nuisance	..	..	..	..	1
Living van without any sanitary convenience	..	..	..	..	1
Ice-cream manufactured on insanitary premises	..	..	..	..	3
					<hr/>
Total					575
					<hr/>

287 informal notices and 44 formal notices were served in connection with the above nuisances.

In 7 cases works were carried out under Sec. 36 of the Public Health Act 1875, upon the owners' default and the costs recovered.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

In one case only was it necessary to complain to the Justices under Sec. 95 of the Public Health Act 1875. This was a complaint that animals were kept on certain premises so as to be a nuisance. An order to abate the nuisance within one month was made by the Justices.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The number of water closets in use is as follows :—

Washdown and Washout closets	..	..	..	..	3258
Automatic closets flushed with clean water	..	..	..	..	186
Tippers flushed with slop water	..	..	..	..	17
					<hr/>
Total					3461
					<hr/>
No. of privies without other accommodation	..	..	..	..	58
No. of privies where there is also a w.c.	..	..	..	..	3
No. of privies outside sewerage area	..	..	..	..	4
No. of pail closets	..	..	..	..	20
					<hr/>
Total					85
					<hr/>

No. of privies converted to w.c's. during the year	..	6
No. of pail closets converted to w.c's. during the year	..	nil.
		—
	Total	6
		—

Regular inspection of slaughter-houses, dairies and cowsheds, butchers shops, bakehouses and ice-cream manufactories has been made, and the sanitary condition of all premises where food is prepared, stored, or exposed for sale is good except those in which ice-cream is manufactured.

There are no private slaughter-houses, all slaughtering being done at the Public Slaughter-house, which has been maintained in an efficient manner ; a re-modelling of this is desirable.

Disinfection with formalin of 101 rooms in 79 houses after cases of infectious disease was carried out.

The steam disinfector at the Isolation Hospital is efficient.

There is no cleansing station. Cases of infestation have been dealt with by fumigation of premises and steam disinfection of bedding and clothing.

All dairy cows within the Borough are examined quarterly by a Veterinary Surgeon for detection of tuberculosis of the udder. The condition generally of dairies and cowsheds was fairly satisfactory : defects found were remedied on service of notice.

Of 23 samples of milk submitted for analysis 2 were found to be slightly below the standard for milk fat ; the vendors were warned. Of 1 sample each of flour, cream, and lard, and 2 samples of butter submitted all were found genuine : 25 samples of milk and 1 of cream were examined for preservatives, but none was found.

Communication was made with all manufacturers and retailers of shaving brushes, drawing attention to the possibility of Anthrax infection from this source.

Medical Practitioners were circularised as to additional nursing facilities that were available in cases of Infantile Diarrhoea : a pamphlet on Encephalitis Lethargica was also supplied to them.

NAME.	QUALIFICATION.	Office.	Whole or Part Time.	Other Offices.	Salary contributed under P.H. Act or Exchequer Grants
W. B. Cockill	M.D. etc., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health	Part	M.O.H. Combined Sanitary Districts of Westmorland	Yes
G. Jackson	A.R. San. I.	Sanitary Inspector	Whole	—	Yes
H. Rooking	—	Clerk to Inspector	Whole	—	No
E. E. Peterson	C.M.B. Queens Certif. Certif. in General Training and Fever.	Health Visitor	Part	School Nurse	Yes
W. E. Henderson	M.B. etc., D.P.H.	School Medical Officer	Part	County M.O.H. and School Medical Officer	Yes
F. W. Oxberry	M.I.M.C.S.	Surveyor	Part	Borough Surveyor	No
W. R. Wilson	—	Water Engineer	Part	Gas Engineer	No
R. Bickerton	M.R.C.V.S.	Veterinary Officer ; Inspector of Milking Cows	Part	—	No
R. Hellon	Ph.D., F.I.C.	Public Analyst	Part	—	No
D. Potts	M.B. etc., D.P.H.	Ophthalmic Surgeon to Education Committee	Part	Assistant County School M.O.H.	Yes
H. B. Ivers	L.D.S.	School Dentist	Part	County School Dentist	Yes

9. HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	27
(b) As part of a Municipal Housing Scheme	13

1. Unfit dwelling-houses. Inspection :—

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1500
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910	127
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ..	93

2. Remedy of defects without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	56
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3. Action under Statutory Powers :—

A—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning Etc. Act 1919.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	30
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :	
(a) By owners	17
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	4
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close.. ..	nil.

B—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..	7
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—	
(a) By owners	7
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	nil.

C—Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing
Town Planning Etc. Act 1909.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	1
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.. .. .	nil.
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	nil.

TITUS WILSON AND SON, PRINTERS, KENDAL.